#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

#### In Re: Roy Hardemon

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TO: Roy Hardemon 1292 Northwest 79th Street, APT 108 Miami, FL 33147-8248 Case No.: FEC 22-309

Division of Elections 500 S. Bronough Street, Room 316 Tallahassee, FL 32399

#### NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARINGS (IH))

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, **November 14, 2023 at 8:30 a.m.**, *or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard*, at the following location: **402 South Monroe Street**, **12 HOB**, **Tallahassee**, **Florida 32399.** Due to heightened security access requirements, please bring only essential items into the building and plan to arrive early to allow for delays coming through security.

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

If you are the Respondent, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 *minutes* to present your case to the Commission. However, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless you request to be heard or the Commission requests that your case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, your case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are the Complainant, you may attend the hearing, but you will *not* be permitted to address the Commission. In addition, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless the Respondent requests to be heard or the Commission requests that the case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, the case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are an Appellant, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 *minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

Please be advised that both confidential and public cases are scheduled to be heard by the Florida Elections Commission on this date. As an Appellant, Respondent or Complainant in one case, you will *not* be permitted to attend the hearings on other confidential cases.

The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

#### See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission October 31, 2023 Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing*. The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant to Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, *he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources* at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.



# **Florida Elections Commission**

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050 Telephone: (850) 922-4539 · Facsimile: (850) 921-0783 <u>FEC@myfloridalegal.com</u> · <u>www.fec.state.fl.us</u>



September 6, 2023

Roy Hardemon 1292 NW 79th Street, Apt. 108 Miami, FL 33147-8248

#### RE: Case No.: FEC 22-309; Respondent: Roy Hardemon

Dear Mr. Hardemon:

The Florida Elections Commission at its August 15, 2023, virtual meeting was unable to hear this case. Therefore, this case has been rescheduled for its next meeting, which is scheduled for November 14-15, 2023, in Tallahassee. A notice of hearing indicating the exact date and time will be mailed approximately 14 days before the hearing.

If you have any questions, please contact us at the number listed above or at <u>fec@myfloridalegal.com</u>.

Sincerely, *Tim Vaccaro* 

Executive Director

TV/dm cc: Division of Elections, Complainant

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

#### In Re: Roy Hardemon

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TO: Roy Hardemon 1292 NW 79th Street, Apt. 108 Miami, FL 33147-8248 Case No.: FEC 22-309

Division of Elections 500 South Bronough Street, Room 316 Tallahassee, FL 32399

#### **NOTICE OF HEARING (INFORMAL HEARING)**

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, August 15, 2023 at 8:30 a.m., *or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard*, at the following location: Virtual Meeting via GoTo Webinar:

WEB PARTICIPATION: <u>https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4391393799096818270</u>

AUDIO PARTICIPATION: 1 877 309 2074 ATTENDEE ACCESS CODE: 424-284-031

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

This hearing will be conducted pursuant to Section 106.25, Florida Statutes, which governs your participation as follows:

If you are the Respondent, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 minutes to present your case to the Commission. However, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless you request to be heard or the Commission requests that your case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, your case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are the Complainant, you may attend the hearing, but you will *not* be permitted to address the Commission. In addition, some cases (including those in which consent orders or recommendations for no probable cause are being considered) may be decided by an *en masse* vote and, unless the Respondent requests to be heard or the Commission requests that the case be considered separately on the day of the hearing, the case will *not* be individually heard.

If you are an Appellant, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 *minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

Please be advised that both confidential and public cases are scheduled to be heard by the Florida Elections Commission on this date. As an Appellant, Respondent or Complainant in one case, you will *not* be permitted to attend the hearings on other confidential cases.

The Commission will electronically record the meeting. Although the Commission's recording is considered the official record of the hearing, the Respondent may provide, at his own expense, a certified court reporter to also record the hearing.

If you require an accommodation due to a disability, contact Donna Ann Malphurs at (850) 922-4539 or by mail at 107 West Gaines Street, The Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399, at least 5 days before the hearing.

#### See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission August 1, 2023 Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order before a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed and become public. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the case will remain confidential, unless confidentiality has been waived.

If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing*. The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, *he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources* at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Florida Elections Commission, Petitioner,

v.

Case No.: FEC 22-309

Roy Hardemon, Respondent.

#### **ORDER OF PROBABLE CAUSE**

**THIS MATTER** was heard by the Florida Elections Commission (Commission) at its regularly scheduled meeting on May 16, 2023, in Tallahassee, Florida.

On January 4, 2023, Staff recommended to the Commission that there was probable cause to believe that the Florida Election Code was violated. The facts articulated in Staff's Recommendation are adopted by reference and incorporated herein. Based on the Complaint, Report of Investigation, Staff's Recommendation, and oral statements (if any) made at the probable cause hearing, the Commission finds that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with the following violation(s):

#### Count 1:

On or about May 10, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 M4 Report.

#### Count 2:

On or about June 10, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 M5 Report.

Order of Probable Cause FEC # 22-309

#### Count 3:

On or about June 24, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 P1 Report.

#### Count 4:

On or about July 8, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 P2 Report.

#### Count 5:

On or about July 22, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 P3 Report.

DONE AND ORDERED by the Florida Elections Commission on May 16, 2023.

Tim Vaccaro, J.D., Executive Director For Joni Alexis Poitier, Vice Chair Florida Elections Commission

Copies furnished to: Stephanie J. Cunningham, General Counsel Roy Hardemon, Respondent Division of Elections, Complainant

#### NOTICE OF RIGHT TO A HEARING

As the Respondent, you may elect to resolve this case in several ways. First, you may elect to resolve this case by <u>consent order</u> where you and Commission staff agree to resolve the violation(s) and agree to the amount of the fine. The consent order is then presented to the Commission for its approval. To discuss a consent order, contact the FEC attorney identified in the Order of Probable Cause.

Order of Probable Cause FEC # 22-309 Second, you may request an <u>informal hearing</u> held before the Commission, if you <u>do not</u> dispute any material fact in the Staff Recommendation. You have 30 days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to make written or oral arguments to the Commission concerning the legal issues related to the violation(s) and the potential fine. At the request of Respondent, the Commission will consider and determine willfulness at an informal hearing. Otherwise, live witness testimony is unnecessary.

Third, you may request a <u>formal hearing</u> held before an administrative law judge in the Division of Administrative Hearings (DOAH), if you dispute any material fact in the Staff Recommendation. You have 30 days from the date the Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission to request such a hearing. The date this order was filed appears in the upper righthand corner of the first page of the order. At the hearing, you will have the right to present evidence relevant to the violation(s) listed in this order, to cross-examine opposing witnesses, to impeach any witness, and to rebut the evidence presented against you.

If you do not elect to resolve the case by consent order or request a formal hearing at the DOAH or an informal hearing before the Commission within 30 days of the date this Order of Probable Cause is filed with the Commission, the case will be sent to the Commission for a formal or informal hearing, depending on whether the facts are in dispute. The date this order was filed appears in the upper right-hand corner of the first page of the order.

To request a hearing, please send a written request to the Commission Clerk, Donna Ann Malphurs. The address of the Commission Clerk is 107 W. Gaines Street, Collins Building, Suite 224, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1050. The telephone number is (850) 922-4539. The Clerk will provide you with a copy of Chapter 28-106, *Florida Administrative Code*, and other applicable rules upon request. No mediation is available.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

#### In Re: Roy Hardemon

Case No.: FEC 22-309

TO: Roy Hardemon 1292 NW 79th Stre

1292 NW 79th Street, Apt. 108 Miami, FL 33147-8248 Division of Elections 500 South Bronough Street, Room 316 Tallahassee, FL 32399

#### NOTICE OF HEARING (PROBABLE CAUSE DETERMINATION)

A hearing will be held in this case before the Florida Elections Commission on, May 16, 2023 at 8:30, or as soon thereafter as the parties can be heard, at the following location: Join Zoom Meeting:

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMpdumuqTsqGt1MNuvpQBOI5XPapAI\_9zfC

Audio Participation:	Meeting ID:	Passcode:
Dial: 1 301 715 8592	874 1067 0009	772737

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

Failure to appear in accordance with this notice will constitute a waiver of your right to participate in the hearing. Continuances will be granted only upon a showing of good cause.

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If you are an Appellant, and you have requested a hearing, you may attend the hearing, and you or your attorney will have 5 *minutes* to present your case to the Commission.

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#### See further instructions on the reverse side.

Tim Vaccaro

Executive Director Florida Elections Commission May 2, 2023 Please refer to the information below for further instructions related to your particular hearing:

If this is a hearing to consider **an appeal from an automatic fine**, the Filing Officer has imposed a fine on you for your failure to file a campaign treasurer's report on the designated due date and, by filing an appeal, you have asked the Commission to consider either (1) that the report was in fact timely filed; or (2) that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure to file the report timely. You are required to prove your case. If the Commission finds that the report was filed timely or that there were unusual circumstances that excused the failure, it may waive the fine, in whole or in part. The Commission may reduce a fine after considering the factors in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes. If the Commission finds that the report was not timely filed and there were no unusual circumstances, the fine will be upheld.

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If this is a hearing to consider a **consent order after a determination of probable cause has been made**, the Commission will decide whether to accept or reject the consent order. If the Commission accepts the consent order, the case will be closed. If the Commission rejects the consent order or does not make a decision to accept or deny the consent order, the Respondent will be entitled to another hearing to determine if the Respondent committed the violation(s) alleged.

If this is a **probable cause hearing**, the Commission will decide if there is probable cause to believe that the Respondent committed a violation of Florida's election laws. Respondent should be prepared to explain how the staff in its recommendation incorrectly applied the law to the facts of the case. *Respondent may not testify, call others to testify, or introduce any documentary or other evidence at the probable cause hearing*. The Commission will only decide whether Respondent should be *charged* with a violation and, before the Commission determines whether a violation has occurred or a fine should be imposed, Respondent will have an opportunity for another hearing at which evidence may be introduced.

If this is an **informal hearing**, it will be conducted pursuant Sections 120.569 and 120.57(2), Florida Statutes; Chapter 28 and Commission Rule 2B-1.004, Florida Administrative Code. At the hearing, the Commission will decide whether the Respondent committed the violation(s) charged in the Order of Probable Cause. The Respondent will be permitted to testify. However, the Respondent may not call witnesses to testify.

Respondent may argue why the established facts in the Staff Recommendation do not support the violations charged in the Order of Probable Cause. At Respondent's request, the Commission may determine whether Respondent's actions in the case were willful. The Respondent may also address the appropriateness of the recommended fine. If Respondent claims that his limited resources make him unable to pay the statutory fine, *he must provide the Commission with written proof of his financial resources* at the hearing. A financial affidavit form is available from the Commission Clerk.

#### STATE OF FLORIDA FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

In Re: Roy Hardemon

Case No.: FEC 22-309

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION FOLLOWING INVESTIGATION**

Pursuant to Section 106.25(4)(c), Florida Statutes, undersigned staff counsel files this written recommendation for disposition of the referral in this case recommending that there is **probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating **Section 106.07(7)**, **Florida Statutes**. Based upon a thorough review of the Report of Investigation submitted on December 13, 2022, the following facts and law support this staff recommendation:

1. On September 7, 2022, the Florida Elections Commission ("Commission") received a referral from the Department of State, Division of Elections ("Division"), alleging that Roy Hardemon ("Respondent") violated Chapter 106, Florida Statutes.

2. Respondent was a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 108. (ROI Exhibit 2)<sup>1</sup>

3. By letter dated October 11, 2022, the Executive Director notified Respondent that Commission staff would investigate the following statutory provision:

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 108, failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because he had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during the following reporting periods:

- 2022 M4
- 2022 M5
- 2022 P1
- 2022 P2
- 2022 P3

4. By letter dated September 22, 2021, Donna S. Brown, Chief, Bureau of Election Records, sent Respondent a letter acknowledging that the Division had received his Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for Candidates form. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 1)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> The Report of Investigation is referred to herein as "ROI."

5. The acknowledgment letter advised Respondent that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms were available on its website and directed Respondent to print out the *Calendar of Reporting Dates* as well as other relevant documents. (ROI Exhibit 3, page 2)

6. Pursuant to Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, in any reporting period during which a candidate has not received funds, made any contributions, or expended any reportable funds, the filing of the required report for that period is waived. However, the candidate is required to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date.

7. The *Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook* references the statutory requirement regarding written notification and directs candidates to notify the Division by way of the Division's electronic filing system. (ROI Exhibit 4, page 2) The *Candidate EFS User's Guide* shows the process through which to notify the Division. The user's guide instructs candidates to select the relevant reporting period and place a checkmark in a box titled "Waiver" to indicate the lack of reportable financial activity. (ROI Exhibit 5, page 2)

8. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed for the following reporting periods, as set forth in the table below. (ROI Exhibit 6, page 1)

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2022 M4	4/1/22 - 4/30/22	5/10/22	7/26/22	77
2022 M5	5/1/22 - 5/31/22	6/10/22	7/26/22	46
2022 P1	6/1/22 - 6/17/22	6/24/22	7/26/22	32
2022 P2	6/18/22 - 7/1/22	7/8/22	7/26/22	18
2022 P3	7/2/22 - 7/15/22	7/22/22	7/26/22	4

9. Respondent stated that he failed to timely submit notices of no activity because he was busy fighting for the rights of homeowners. (ROI Exhibit 7) Respondent was not a first-time candidate. (ROI, p.1,  $\P$ 1)

10. "Probable Cause" is defined as reasonable grounds of suspicion supported by circumstances sufficiently strong to warrant a cautious person in the belief that the person has committed the offense charged. *Schmitt v. State*, 590 So. 2d 404, 409 (Fla. 1991). Probable cause exists where the facts and circumstances, of which an [investigator] has reasonably trustworthy information, are sufficient in themselves for a reasonable man to reach the conclusion that an offense has been committed. *Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles v. Favino*, 667 So. 2d 305, 309 (Fla. 1st DCA 1995).

11. The facts set forth above show that Respondent was a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 108. Respondent failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting dates that no reports would be filed for the following reporting periods: 2022 M4, 2022 M5, 2022 P1, 2022 P2, and 2022 P3.

Based upon these facts and circumstances, I recommend that the Commission find **probable cause** to charge Respondent with violating the following:

#### Count 1:

On or about May 10, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 M4 Report.

#### Count 2:

On or about June 10, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 M5 Report.

#### Count 3:

On or about June 24, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 P1 Report.

#### Count 4:

On or about July 8, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 P2 Report.

#### Count 5:

On or about July 22, 2022, Roy Hardemon violated Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, when he failed to notify the filing officer in writing on the prescribed reporting date that he would not be filing his 2022 P3 Report.

Respectfully submitted on January 4, 2023.

Stephanie J. Cunningham

Stephanie J. Cunningham General Counsel

I reviewed this Staff Recommendation this <u></u>day of January 2023.

Tim Vaccaro Executive Director

#### FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

#### **Report of Investigation for Failure to Notify Filing Officer**

Case Number: FEC 22-309

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, failure of a candidate or political committee that did not receive any contributions or make any expenditures during a reporting period to timely notify the filing officer, in writing, that no report is being filed.

**Respondent:** Roy Hardemon **Respondent's Atty:** N/A

Division of Elections (Division) Referral Filed: September 7, 2022

Respondent Type: Candidate

#### I. Preliminary Information:

1. Respondent was a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 108; he was defeated in the primary election held on August 23, 2022. Respondent was not a first-time candidate.

2. An Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository (DS-DE 9) was filed on September 21, 2021. Respondent was appointed as campaign treasurer. To review the DS-DE 9, refer to Exhibit 1.

3. Respondent filed a Statement of Candidate with the Division on September 21, 2021, in which Respondent certified he had been provided access to read and understand Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. To review the Statement of Candidate, refer to Exhibit 2.

4. An acknowledgement letter was mailed to the address provided on the DS-DE 9 on September 22, 2021, advising Respondent that all candidates filing reports with the Division are required to file by means of the Division's electronic filing system (EFS). Respondent was provided with a user identification number and initial password allowing access to the EFS.

5. The acknowledgement letter also advised Respondent that all of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on their website, including Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook* and the *Calendar of Reporting Dates*. The letter further advised that it was Respondent's responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws. To review the acknowledgement letter, refer to Exhibit 3.

6. The *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook* discusses filing a waiver when there is no activity to disclose. To review the relevant page of the *Handbook*, refer to Exhibit 4.

7. The *Candidate EFS User's Guide* discusses how to notify the Division on the prescribed reporting date that no report will be filed using the EFS. Specifically, the *Handbook* instructs the user to click the box next to "waiver" if there is no activity to disclose. To review the relevant pages from the *EFS User's Guide*, refer to Exhibit 5.

#### THIS SPACE INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

#### **II.** Alleged Violation of Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes:

8. I investigated whether Respondent violated this section of the election laws by not timely notifying the filing officer, in writing, that no report(s) would be filed due to not receiving any contributions or making expenditures during the following reporting period(s). To review Respondent's filing history reflecting the untimely filed notifications summarized below, refer to Exhibit 6.

Report	Report Cover Period	Date Notification Due	Date Notification Filed	No. of Days Late
2022 M4	4/1/22 - 4/30/22	5/10/22	7/26/22	77
2022 M5	5/1/22 - 5/31/22	6/10/22	7/26/22	46
2022 P1	6/1/22 - 6/17/22	6/24/22	7/26/22	32
2022 P2	6/18/22 - 7/1/22	7/8/22	7/26/22	18
2022 P3	7/2/22 - 7/15/22	7/22/22	7/26/22	4
0.0	1 4 1 1 4 1 4	1 6 1		

9. Respondent did not respond to the referral.

10. On December 9, 2022, I called Respondent for the purpose of providing an opportunity to discuss the allegations made in the referral. Respondent acknowledged that he had been given access to election materials. Respondent stated that he did not have much financial activity during the campaign until the TR reporting period. He stated that he missed the report due dates because he did not have any financial activity and was busy fighting for the rights of local homeowners. To review the phone log, refer to Exhibit 7.

rilet.

Date: December 13, 2022

SIGNATURE OF INVESTIGATOR:

## FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION REPORT OF INVESTIGATION Roy Hardemon -- FEC 22-309

	LIST OF EXHIBITS
Exhibits #s	Description of Exhibits
Exhibit 1	DS-DE 9 Form
Exhibit 2	Statement of Candidate
Exhibit 3	Acknowledgement Letter
Exhibit 4	Relevant pages from the Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook
Exhibit 5	Relevant pages from the Candidate EFS User's Guide
Exhibit 6	Filing History
Exhibit 7	Phone Log

HAND DELIVERED	
APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND DESIGNATION OF CAMPAIGN DEPOSITORY FOR CANDIDATES	RECEIVED
(Section 106.021(1), F.S.)	2021 SEP 21 PM 3: 16
(PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE)	ETVISION OF ELECTIONS TALLAHASSEE, FL
NOTE: This form must be on file with the qualifying officer before opening the campaign account.	OFFICE USE ONLY
1. CHECK APPROPRIATE BOX(ES):     Initial Filing of Form Re-filing to Change:	reasurer/Deputy 🔲 Depository 🚺 Office 🚺 Party
2. Name of Candidate (in this order: First, Middle, Last)	3. Address (include post office box or street, city, state, zip code)
Roy Harde Mun       4. Telephone     5. E-mail address	- 1292 N.W 79 St 33/27 Migmi FL
(786)351 0707 Hardemonm@A0	Laum
6. Office sought (include district, circuit, group number)	7. If a candidate for a <u>nonpartisan</u> office, check if
State Representative	My intent is to run as a Write-In candidate.
8. If a candidate for a <u>partisan</u> office, check block and fil	in name of party as applicable: My intent is to run as a
Write-In No Party Affiliation <u>De</u>	Mucrat Party candidate.
9. I have appointed the following person to act as my	Campaign Treasurer Deputy Treasurer
10. Name of Treasurer or Deputy Treasurer Roy Hardemon	
11. Mailing Address	12. Telephone
1292 NW79 St Apt 108	(786)3560707
13. City 14. County 15. Sta $\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{A} \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{A} \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{A} \mathcal{M}, \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A} \mathcal{A}$	
18. I have designated the following bank as my	Primary Depository Secondary Depository
19. Name of Bank	20. Address
<u>Bank OF AMERICA</u> 21. City 22. County	2655 NW549T 23. State 24. Zip Code
migm: Dyde	Fl 33/42
UNDER PENALTIES OF PERJURY, I DECLARE THAT I HAVE READ TH	E FOREGOING FORM FOR APPOINTMENT OF CAMPAIGN TREASURER AND AND THAT THE FACTS STATED IN IT ARE TRUE.
25. Date	26. Signature of Candidate
9/21/21	X */
	t (fill in the blanks and check the appropriate block)
1. Roy HardeMon (Please Print or Type Name)	, do hereby accept the appointment
designated above as:	r Deputy Treasurer.
9/21/21 X	R
Date	Signature of Gampaign Treasures or Deputy Treasurer
	Bule 15-2 0001 EAC

DS-DE 9 (Rev. 10/10)

Rule 1S-2.0001, F.A.C.

OFFICE USE ONLY RECEIVED STATEMENT OF CANDIDATE 2021 SEP 21 PM 3: 16 (Section 106.023, F.S.) UNISION OF ELECTIONS TALLAHASSEE.FL (Please print or type) 1, Roj Hardemen candidate for the office of <u>state Representative District 108</u>; have been provided access to read and understand the requirements of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes. Х Signature of Candidate Each candidate must file a statement with the gualifying officer within 10 days after the

Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository is filed. Willful failure to file this form is a first degree misdemeanor and a civil violation of the Campaign Financing Act which may result in a fine of up to \$1,000, (ss. 106.19(1)(c), 106.265(1), Florida Statutes).

# Exhibit 2 Page 1 of 1



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT Of STATE

RON DESANTIS

Governor

LAUREL M. LEE Secretary of State

September 22, 2021

Roy Hardemon 1292 Northwest 79<sup>th</sup> Street Apt 108 Miami, Florida 33127

Dear Representative Hardemon:

This will acknowledge receipt of the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository for the office of State Representative, which was placed on file in our office on September 21, 2021. Your name has been placed on the 2022 active candidate list.

#### **Campaign Treasurer's Reports**

Your first campaign treasurer's report will be due on **October 12, 2021**. The report will cover the period of September 1-30, 2021 (2021 M9). All candidates who file reports with the Division of Elections are required to file by means of the Division's Electronic Filing System (EFS).

#### **EFS Access**

Below is the web address to access the EFS and your user identification number. Enclosed are your confidential, filing credentials.

EFS Website Address: https://efs.dos.state.fl.us Identification Number: 79711

#### **Timely Filing**

All reports filed must be completed and filed through the EFS no later than midnight, Eastern Standard Time, of the due date. Reports not filed by midnight of the due date are late filed and subject to the penalties in Section 106.07(8), Florida Statutes. In the event that the EFS is inoperable on the due date, the report will be accepted as timely filed if filed no later than midnight of the first business day the EFS becomes operable. No fine will be levied during the period the EFS was inoperable.

**Division of Elections** 

R.A. Gray Building, Suite 316 • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399 850.245.6240 • 850.245.6260 (Fax) • DOS.MyFlorida.com/elections



Exhibit 3 Page 1 of 2

Roy Hardemon 1292 Northwest 79<sup>th</sup> Street September 22, 2021 Page Two

Any candidate failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be subject to a fine of \$50 per day for the first three days late and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for reports immediately preceding each primary and general election, the fine shall be \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late shall be \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.

#### **Electronic Receipts**

The person submitting the report on the EFS will be issued an electronic receipt indicating and verifying the report was filed. Each campaign treasurer's report filed by means of the EFS is considered to be under oath by the candidate and campaign treasurer, and such persons are subject to the provisions of Section 106.07(5), Florida Statutes.

#### **Instructions and Assistance**

An online instruction guide is available to you on the EFS to assist with navigation, data entry, and submission of reports. The Division of Elections will also provide assistance to all users by contacting the EFS Help Desk at (850) 245-6280.

All of the Division's publications and reporting forms are available on the Division of Elections' website at <u>https://dos.myflorida.com/elections</u>. It is your responsibility to read, understand, and follow the requirements of Florida's election laws. Therefore, please print a copy of the following documents: Chapters 104 and 106, Florida Statutes, *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*, *Calendar of Reporting Dates*, and Rule 1S-2.017, Florida Administrative Code.

Please let me know if you need additional information.

Sincerely, Dome S. B.

Donna S. Brown, Chief Bureau of Election Records

DSB/tds

Enclosures

Exhibit 3 Page 2 of 2

Candidate & Campaign Treasurer Handbook



Florida Department of State Division of Elections R. A. Gray Building, Room 316 500 South Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250 850.245.6280

(Rev. 10/03/2019)

Exhibit 4 Page 1 of 2

#### **Notice of No Activity**

In any reporting period during which a candidate has not received funds or made any expenditures, the filing of the required report for that period is waived. However, the candidate must notify the filing officer in writing on or before the prescribed reporting date that no report is being filed on that date. (A notice of no activity filed with the Division must be filed electronically using the <u>EFS</u>.) The next report filed must specify that the report covers the entire period between the last submitted report and the report being filed.

(Section <u>106.07</u>, Fla. Stat.)

#### **Special Election Reports**

When a special election is called to fill a vacancy in office, campaign treasurer reports shall be filed with the filing officer on the dates set by the Florida Department of State pursuant to Section <u>100.111</u>, Florida Statutes. The reports are only to include contributions and expenditures related to the special election.

The candidate must notify the filing officer in writing on or before the prescribed reporting date if no funds were received or no expenditures made during the special election reporting period.

#### **Incomplete Reports**

Although the Division's <u>Electronic Filing System</u> will allow a candidate to file an incomplete report, an incomplete report is not in compliance with the Florida Statutes.

If a candidate or campaign treasurer files a report that is deemed incomplete, they will be notified by the filing officer by certified mail, or by another method using a common carrier that provides a proof of delivery as to why the report is incomplete. The candidate or campaign treasurer must file an addendum to the incomplete report within seven days of notification. The addendum must include all necessary information to complete the report. Failure to file a complete report after notice constitutes a violation of <u>Chapter 106</u>, Florida Statutes.

(Section 106.07(2), Fla. Stat.)

#### **Reporting Total Sums**

Each campaign treasurer's report required by <u>Chapter 106</u>, Florida Statutes, shall contain the total sums of all loans, in-kind contributions, and other receipts by or for such candidate, and total sums of all expenditures made by such candidate during the reporting period. The reporting forms shall be designed to elicit separate totals for in-kind contributions, loans, and other receipts.

(Section <u>106.07</u>, Fla. Stat.)

# Exhibit 4 Page 2 of 2

Department of State Division of Elections

# Candidate EFS User's Guide



Florida Department of State Division of Elections R.A. Gray Building, Room 316 500 S Bronough Street Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

EFS HELP LINE: 850-245-6280

## January 2011

Rule 1S-2.017, F.A.C.

DS-DE 110A (eff. 01/11)

Exhibit 5 Page 1 of 2

The **Due Date** will automatically fill in based on the **Calendar of Election and Reporting Dates**.

#### \*\*\*\*NOTE\*\*\*\*

If this report is a waiver of report (no activity), click the 🔲 box next to Waiver.

Election Cycle:	2010 General E	lection	~		
Report Type:	F2 2010		~		
Coverage Period:	7/17/2010	7/30/2010		Due Date:	08/06/2010
(1) specie	si Election Report	C	- Waive	er 🔶	

Click Open Report at the bottom of the screen. A **Report Detail** screen (view only) will appear. This screen will not indicate any activity until individual detail data is entered, saved and a review is performed.

e Date:			Review Status	Not I	Reviewed			
atus: Da	ita Entry		Last Review	:				
fTransacti	ions: 0	Review	Recalcula	te	Go To File Report	Append File	Delete Report	Sav
Cor	ntributions	Total Amount			Expenditures	Total Amount		
G	ash and Checks:	0	0.00	/	Monetary:		0.00	1
	Loans:	C	.00		Transfers to Off Acct:		0.00	
	Total Monetary:	C	.00		Total Monetary:		0.00	
	In-Kind:	C	.00		Other Distributions:		0.00	

Exhibit 5 Page 2 of 2



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## Florida Department of State - Division of Elections

#### Florida Election System Reports

(	Candidate/Com	mittee Lookup	Cand	date N	<b>ame:</b> Roy H	ardemor	٦				
Name	).			Acco	ount: <u>79711</u>						
Election	:		Date Du	е Туре	Date Filed	Status	Days Late	Fine Assessed	Appealed	Amount Fined	Amount Paid
			<b>*</b> 11/21/202	22 TR		SNT	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Acc	79711		8/19/2022	2 P7		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
Туре	Candidate	~	8/12/2022	2 P6		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
			8/5/2022	P5		FEC	0	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
	Search	Reset	7/29/2022	2 P4	10/5/2022	PEN	68	\$250.00		\$250.00	\$0.00
			7/22/2022	2 P3	7/26/2022	CLO	4	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
			7/8/2022	P2	7/26/2022	CLO	18	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
			6/24/2022	2 P1	7/26/2022	CLO	32	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
			6/10/2022	2 M5	7/26/2022	CLO	46	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
			5/10/2022	2 M4	7/26/2022	PEN	77	\$0.00		\$0.00	\$0.00
			4/11/2022	2 M3	4/25/2022	SNT	14	\$125.00		\$125.00	\$0.00
			3/10/2022	2 M2	3/14/2022	SNT	4	\$77.53		\$77.53	\$0.00
			2/10/2022	2 M1	2/15/2022	SNT	5	\$81.41		\$81.41	\$0.00
			1/10/2022	2 M12	1/5/2022						
			12/10/202	21 M11	12/10/2021						
			11/10/202	21 M10	12/10/2021	SNT	30	\$250.00		\$250.00	\$0.00
			10/12/202	21 M9	10/12/2021						



2022 General Election Roy Hardemon (DEM) State Representative

#### **Campaign Finance Activity**

**Note:** The information presented below was obtained from the Committee's/Candidate's Campaign Treasurer's Report filed with the Division of Elections. About the Campaign Finance Data Base.

			Contributions				
	Filing Period	Monetary	Loans	InKind	Expend	Other	Transfers
W	09/21/2021 - 09/30/2021	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
0	10/01/2021 - 10/31/2021	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
W	11/01/2021 - 11/30/2021	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
W	12/01/2021 - 12/31/2021	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
$\bigcirc$	01/01/2022 - 01/31/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	325.64	0.00	0.00
$\bigcirc$	02/01/2022 - 02/28/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	310.12	0.00	0.00
$\bigcirc$	03/01/2022 - 03/31/2022	500.00	0.00	0.00	339.15	0.00	0.00
W	04/01/2022 - 04/30/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
W	05/01/2022 - 05/31/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
W	06/01/2022 - 06/17/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
W	06/18/2022 - 07/01/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
W	07/02/2022 - 07/15/2022	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
$\bigcirc$	07/16/2022 - 07/22/2022	1,000.00	0.00	0.00	900.00	0.00	0.00
$\bigcirc$	All Dates (Totals)	2,500.00	0.00	0.00	1,874.91	0.00	0.00

Note: <sup>(E)</sup> indicates that report was filed electronically
X Indicates that detail has not been released

W Indicates that a waiver was filed and L Indicates that a loan report was filed

V

Select Detail Type Contributions

V

Select Sort Order Date(Ascending) Select Output Type Display On Screen V

Exhibit 6 Page 2 of 2

Submit Query Now

Query the Campaign Finance Data Base

[Department of State] [Division of Elections] [Candidates and Races] [Campaign Finance Information]

#### FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG Case No.: FEC 22-309

#### **Respondent: Roy Hardemon**

#### **Complainant: Division of Elections**

 Date and time: December 8, 2022 @ 4:00 pm Name: Respondent Phone #: (786) 356-0707
 Summerum L had telephone contect to address

**Summary:** I had telephone contact to address complaint allegations. Respondent advised me that the MVCO fell through because he didn't have any money to pay the agreed upon settlement. He stated that the reports that I inquired about should all be filed at this time. I explained that they had been filed and inquired as to the reason they were untimely filed. He requested that I call him back in the morning due to him being in Home Depot trying to check out. I was instructed to call him at 9 am. **Entered by:** CKO

 Date and time: December 9, 2022 @ 9:00 am Name: Respondent Phone #: (786) 356-0707

**Summary:** I had telephone contact to address complaint allegations. Respondent advised me that he was given access to the election documents. Respondent stated that he did not have much financial activity during his election campaign until his TR reporting period. He told me that he missed the reports due dates due to not having any financial activity and also being busy fighting for the rights of homeowners to not be removed from their homes for various reasons. He stated that he went bankrupt fighting the housing situation and was the result of him not being able to follow through with the MVCO. He stated that he's doing much better now, although it's still a mess in Liberty City, Florida. He verified contact information and also gave me his email address: <u>hardemonmm@aol.com</u>. **Entered by:** CKO

3. **Date and time:** 

Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:

- 4. Date and time: Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:
- 5. Date and time: Name: Phone #:

Exhibit 7 Page 1 of 1

#### FLORIDA ELECTIONS COMMISSION PHONE LOG Case No.: FEC 22-309

Case No.: FEC 22-3

#### **Respondent: Roy Hardemon**

#### **Complainant: Division of Elections**

 Date and time: December 8, 2022 @ 4:00 pm Name: Respondent Phone #: (786) 356-0707

**Summary:** I had telephone contact to address complaint allegations. Respondent advised me that the MVCO fell through because he didn't have any money to pay the agreed upon settlement. He stated that the reports that I inquired about should all be filed at this time. I explained that they had been filed and inquired as to the reason they were untimely filed. He requested that I call him back in the morning due to him being in Home Depot trying to check out. I was instructed to call him at 9 am. **Entered by:** CKO

Entered by: CKO

 Date and time: December 9, 2022 @ 9:00 am Name: Respondent Phone #: (786) 356-0707

**Summary:** I had telephone contact to address complaint allegations. Respondent advised me that he was given access to the election documents. Respondent stated that he did not have much financial activity during his election campaign until his TR reporting period. He told me that he missed the reports due dates due to not having any financial activity and also being busy fighting for the rights of homeowners to not be removed from their homes for various reasons. He stated that he went bankrupt fighting the housing situation and was the result of him not being able to follow through with the MVCO. He stated that he's doing much better now, although it's still a mess in Liberty City, Florida. He verified contact information and also gave me his email address: <u>hardemonmm@aol.com</u>. **Entered by:** CKO

3. **Date and time:** 

Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:

- 4. Date and time: Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:
- 5. Date and time: Name: Phone #:

Summary: Entered by:

- 6. Date and time: Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:
- 7. Date and time: Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:
- 8. Date and time: Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:
- 9. Date and time: Name: Phone #: Summary: Entered by:

#### **RESPONDENT INTERVIEW MEMO – Call details at #[LOG NUMBER]**

*Type and ask your case specific question(s) first, then ask the remaining questions.* 

- Why were the reports untimely filed?
- Did you have any financial activity during the reporting periods?
- Have you ever run for public office? If so, please name each office you ran for and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever been appointed to act as a campaign treasurer for a candidate? If so, please name each such candidate, the office each ran for, and state what year each election occurred.
- Have you ever held the office of chairperson, treasurer, or other similar position for a political committee or electioneering communications organization? If so, please name each committee, state the office you held for each, and state when you held each office.
- Have you ever prepared or signed a campaign treasurer's report? If so, please state the name of the candidate or committee whose report you prepared or signed.
- What action have you taken to determine your responsibilities under Florida's election laws?
- Do you possess a copy of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?

- Do you possess a copy of the *Candidate and Campaign Treasurer Handbook*? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- *If a section of Chapter 104 is listed in the LS letter, ask:* Do you possess a copy of Chapter 104, Florida Statutes? If so, when did you first obtain it? Have you read it?
- Did you receive any other materials from your filing officer? If so, please describe them.
- Do you have anything else to add for the Commission's consideration regarding the charges specified in the letter of legal sufficiency in this case?



## **Florida Elections Commission**

107 West Gaines Street, Suite 224 Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6596 Telephone: (850) 922-4539 · Facsimile: (850) 921-0783 FEC@myfloridalegal.com · www.fec.state.fl.us



October 11, 2022

The Honorable Roy Hardemon 1292 Northwest 79<sup>th</sup> Street Apt 108 Miami, FL 33127-3127

#### RE: Case No.: FEC 22-309; Respondent: Roy Hardemon

Dear Representative Hardemon:

On September 7, 2022, the Florida Elections Commission received a complaint alleging you violated Florida's election laws. I have reviewed the complaint and find that it contains one or more **legally sufficient allegations**. The Commission staff will investigate the following alleged violation(s):

Section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes: As alleged in the complaint, Respondent, a 2022 candidate for State Representative, District 108, failed to notify the filing officer on the prescribed reporting date that no report would be filed on that date because he had not received funds, made contributions, or expended reportable funds during following reporting periods:

- 2022 M4
- 2022 M5
- 2022 P1
- 2022 P2
- 2022 P3

However, prior to an investigation, you have the option to <u>resolve your case now by</u> signing a minor violation consent order and <u>paying a fine of \$250</u>, per Rule 2B-1.003, Florida Administrative Code, <u>rather than the potential \$1,000 per violation</u> provided for in Section 106.265, Florida Statutes.

If you sign the consent order, you would not be required to admit or deny the allegation(s) in the complaint, but you would be required to immediately correct the violation, if feasible.

The signed consent order would then be considered by the Commission at its next available meeting and would constitute final action by the Commission once it is accepted and approved by

Roy Hardemon October 11, 2022 Page 2 FEC 22-309

the Commission. You and the Complainant will receive notice at least 14 days before any hearing at which your case is to be considered.

<u>Please contact Stephanie Cunningham by phone at (850) 922-4539, by email at</u> <u>Stephanie.Cunningham@myfloridalegal.com</u>, or at the address listed above, to accept this minor violation consent order.

If you choose not to resolve this case by consent order, an investigation will be conducted, the Commission will hold one or more hearings to determine whether the alleged violation(s) occurred and, if so, the amount of fine to be imposed upon you.

# Please note that all documents related to this matter will be mailed to the above address unless you notify us of a new address.

For additional information, please refer to the "Frequently Asked Questions" section on the Commission's website.

Sincerely accas

Executive Director

TV/jd

### DIVISION OF ELECTIONS FEC NOTICE FORM

To FEC from Division of Elections

Candidate:	Roy Hardemon
Account Number:	79711
Treasurer:	Roy Hardemon

The Division of Elections hereby provides this notice to the Florida Elections Commission pursuant to sections 106.07(8)(d), 106.22(7), and 106.25(2), Florida Statutes. An apparent violation of Chapter 106, Florida Statutes, has occurred based upon repeated late filings or failure to notify the filing officer in writing that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date as required by section 106.07(7), Florida Statutes, for the following reports:

2022 M4	2022 M5
2022 P1	2022 P2
2022 P3	

- Roy Hardemon (79711) is a 2022 candidate for the office of State Representative.
- On September 21, 2021, Mr. Hardemon filed the Appointment of Campaign Treasurer and Designation of Campaign Depository with the Division appointing himself as treasurer.
- The 2022 M4 campaign treasurer's report was due on May 10, 2022. Mr. Hardemon failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 26, 2022, Mr. Hardemon filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt and letter.)
- The 2022 M5 campaign treasurer's report was due on June 10, 2022. Mr. Hardemon failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 26, 2022, Mr. Hardemon filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt and letter.)

- The 2022 P1 campaign treasurer's report was due on June 24, 2022. Mr. Hardemon failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 26, 2022, Mr. Hardemon filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt and letter.)
- The 2022 P2 campaign treasurer's report was due on July 8, 2022. Mr. Hardemon failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 26, 2022, Mr. Hardemon filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt and letter.)
- The 2022 P3 campaign treasurer's report was due on July 22, 2022. Mr. Hardemon failed to notify the Division that no report was being filed on the prescribed reporting date. On July 26, 2022, Mr. Hardemon filed a notification of no activity. (See attached file receipt and letter.)

Sent By: Donna S. Brown Date: September 2, 2022 bct **Treasurer Report Status** 

ID: 79711 Name: Roy Harde	
Report: 2022 - M4 - 12	Print Date: 8/17/2022 2:57:31 PM
Election: 2022 General Election	
Covers: 4/1/2022-4/30/2022	Amended Vaiver
Due: 5/10/2022	
Filed: 7/26/2022 2:37:13 PM	File Status: Filed Report
Reviewed: 7/26/2022	Review Status: Reviewed
	Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found
File Method: Web Filed	Number of Detail Records
Entry Method: Web Data Entry	Contributions: 0
	Expenditures: 0
Pending Queued Items: 0	Fund Transfers: 0
t ontanig queetee teenter e	Distributions: 0



#### FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Laurel M. Lee Secretary of State DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

May 12, 2022

Roy Hardemon Candidate for State Representative, District 108 1292 Northwest 79 Street Apt 108 Miami, FL 33127-3127

Dear Representative Hardemon:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was May 10, 2022.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

- If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as follows until you file your report:
  - \$50 per day for the first 3 days late
  - \$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day late
  - If the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

• If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely, B-

Donna S. Brown, Chief Bureau of Election Records

CAN 79711

Treasurer Report Status

Report: 2022 - M5 - 8	Print Date: 8/17/2022 2:56:27 PM
Election: 2022 General Election	
Covers: 5/1/2022-5/31/2022	
Due: 6/10/2022	Amended Waiver
Filed: 7/26/2022 2:29:37 PM	File Status: Filed Report
eviewed: 7/26/2022	Review Status: Reviewed
	Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found
File Method: Web Filed Entry Method: Web Data Entry	Number of Detail Records
	Contributions: 0
	Expenditures: 0
Pending Queued Items: 0	Fund Transfers: 0
	Distributions: 0



#### FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Cord Byrd Secretary of State DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

June 28, 2022

Roy Hardemon Candidate for State Representative, District 108 655 Northwest 48 Street Miami, FL 33127-3127

Dear Representative Hardemon:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was June 10, 2022.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

• If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as follows until you file your report:

\$50 per day for the first 3 days late \$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day late If the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

 If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief Bureau of Effection Records

CAN 79711

Treasurer Report Status

eport: 2022 - P1 - 9	Print Date: 8/17/2022 2:57:47 PM
ection: 2022 General Election	
overs: 6/1/2022-6/17/2022	Amended Vaiver
Due: 6/24/2022	
Filed: 7/26/2022 2:32:39 PM	File Status: Filed Report
eviewed: 7/26/2022	Review Status: Reviewed
	Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found
File Method: Web Filed Entry Method: Web Data Entry Pending Queued Items: <b>0</b>	Number of Detail Records
	Contributions: 0
	Expenditures: 0
	Fund Transfers: 0
	Distributions: 0



#### FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Cord Byrd Secretary of State DIVISION OF FLECTIONS

June 28, 2022

Roy Hardemon Candidate for State Representative, District 108 655 Northwest 48 Street Miami, FL 33127-3127

Dear Representative Hardemon:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was June 24, 2022.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

• If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as follows until you file your report:

\$50 per day for the first 3 days late\$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day lateIf the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

 If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief Bureau of Election Records

CAN 79711

Treasurer Report Status

D: <b>79711</b>	Name: Roy Harde	mon
Report: 2022 - F Election: 2022 Ge		Print Date: 8/17/2022 2:58:10 PM
Covers: 6/18/20 Due: 7/8/202		Amended 🗹 Waiver
Filed: 7/26/	2022 2:35:00 PM	File Status: Filed Report
Reviewed: 7/26/2022	Review Status: Reviewed	
		Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found
File Method: Web Filed Entry Method: Web Data Entry	Number of Detail Records	
	Contributions: 0	
	Expenditures: 0	
Pending Queued Items: 0	Fund Transfers: 0	
	Distributions: 0	



#### FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Cord Byrd Secretary of State DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

July 19, 2022

Roy Hardemon Candidate for State Representative, District 108 655 Northwest 48 Street Miami, FL 33127-3127

Dear Representative Hardemon:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was July 8, 2022.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

- If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically
  assessed as follows until you file your report:
  - \$50 per day for the first 3 days late
  - \* \$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day late
  - If the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

 If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief Bureau of Election Records

CAN 79711

## Florida Division of Elections - Electronic Filing System

## Treasurer Report Status

79711 Name: Roy Harde	mon
oort: 2022 - P3 - 11 ion: 2022 General Election	Print Date: 8/17/2022 2:58:24 PM
vers: 7/2/2022-7/15/2022 Due: 7/22/2022	Amended Waiver
Filed: 7/26/2022 2:35:57 PM	File Status: Filed Report
viewed: 7/26/2022	Review Status: Reviewed
	Detail Complete: No Detail Records Found
File Method: Web Filed Entry Method: Web Data Entry	Number of Detail Records
	Contributions: 0
	Expenditures: 0
Pending Queued Items: 0	Fund Transfers: 0
	Distributions: 0



#### FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE Cord Byrd Secretary of State DIVISION OF ELECTIONS

July 26, 2022

Roy Hardemon Candidate for State Representative, District 108 655 Northwest 48 Street Miami, FL 33127-3127

Dear Representative Hardemon:

Our records indicate that you have not filed either your campaign treasurer's report or notification that no reportable activity occurred, whichever is applicable. The filing date was July 22, 2022.

The law (s. 106.07(8)(b), Fla. Stat.) requires the filing officer to immediately notify you about the missed filing date and the automatic fines that will be assessed for late filing of a report, if a report was due.

• If reportable activity occurred and you have not filed a report, statutory fines are automatically assessed as follows until you file your report:

\$50 per day for the first 3 days late\$500 per day for each day after the 3rd day lateIf the required report immediately precedes a primary and general election, the automatic fine is \$500 for each late day.

The total fine for the untimely report cannot exceed 25% of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the cover period. Even if you end up filing your report late, we cannot waive the statutory fines. We will notify you of the specific amount of fines owed once you file your report. You have 20 days from the day you receive the notice to pay the fine or to appeal the fine to the Florida Elections Commission.

• If no reportable activity occurred for the report date(s), you are still required to notify us in writing, via the Division's Electronic Filing System, that no reportable activity occurred. No automatic fines are statutorily assessed.

However, in all cases, failure to file and/or untimely filing of a report of reportable activity, or if applicable, a notice that no reportable activity occurred, may constitute an apparent violation of chapter 106, Fla. Stat. If we refer such matter to the Florida Elections Commission, the Commission may subsequently impose a civil penalty for each violation under chapter 106.265(1), Fla. Stat.

If you have any questions, please contact the help desk at (850) 245-6280.

Sincerely,

Donna S. Brown, Chief Bureau of Election Records

CAN 79711